

**Update for Joint Legislative Oversight Committee for Mental Health,
Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

September 25, 2007

I. Consumer Income: LMEs Are To Report Consumer Income

HB 1473, Section 10.49(ff) states:

“The General Assembly also lacks data regarding the incomes of persons receiving mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services that are paid for by either State or county funds. This lack of data severely limits the General Assembly's ability to determine the distribution of services that are being paid for with public funds, whether persons who are eligible for Medicaid are being enrolled in that program, and whether expanding the State's Medicaid eligibility criteria would impact a significant number of mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services consumers...LMEs shall also gather income data for all individuals receiving services.”

Division Actions to Implement:

1. Current reporting form does have a field to capture consumer income and LMEs will be required to complete this information for all consumers in SFY 08. Submission of income data had previously been optional but will now be required.
2. LMEs will be notified during early October 2007, of the requirement, as well as item 3 noted below (family size).
3. Concurrent with this requirement notification, LMEs will also be required to submit family size in order to make the consumer income data more relevant. Reporting family size did require a slight modification to current reporting fields, however, this modification is considered minor. Although the modification is minor, the Division coordinates with LMEs to allow 90 days for modification in systems prior to implementation.
4. Income information will be collected for all consumers for the full year, however, implementation will be staged in two steps:
Step 1: For new consumers coming into services on January 1, 2008 and later, income and family size will be collected and reported upon admission.
Step 2: For consumers already in service as of January 1, 2008, income and family size must be updated in records no later than February 2008. LMEs can begin the background work on this upon formal notification of the change to ensure information has been updated by February 2008.
5. Implementation of the above changes will enable the Division to collect income data on all consumers for the full year and thereafter.

II. Use of County Funds: LMEs Are To Report The Use Of County Funds

HB 1473, Section 10.49(ff) states:

*“The General Assembly finds that counties have budgeted almost one hundred twenty-one million dollars (\$121,000,000) to LMEs to pay for mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services. However, the General Assembly lacks information regarding the specific services that are purchased with those county funds...Therefore, LMEs **shall report annually** (emphasis added) to the Division all expenditures from county funds by the LME for services, start-up expenses, and capital and operational expenditures, regardless of the source of the funds and regardless of whether the funds were earned on a payment for service or grant basis. This reporting shall include specific information regarding the expenditure of all funds provided to the LME by the county or counties contained in the LME's catchment area and the amount of expenditures for services provided by the multicounty LME to residents of each county in the multicounty LME's catchment area. To the extent possible, the information shall be submitted through the Integrated Payment and Reimbursement System. LMEs shall also gather income data for all individuals receiving services.”*

Division Actions to Implement

1. Division established a workgroup to address the reporting requirements set forth herein for county funds. The workgroup has met multiple times and is developing a draft proposal for discussion with LMEs and to secure their feedback prior to implementation.
2. At a high level, the proposal is structured to collect data as follows:
 - a. Value of services purchased with county funds and reported within the Integrated Payment and Reporting System (IPRS).
 - b. For county funds used which cannot readily be reported via IPRS, e.g, start-up, capital investment, non-consumer specific uses, etc., LMEs will be required to submit an annual report to the Division on county funds utilized in this manner.
3. The Division is in the process of setting up meetings with representations of LMEs, including directors and their staff, to review the proposal for their feedback and, as needed, to make adjustments in the final requirements.
4. In order to implement the reporting of county funded services via IPRS, relatively minor adjustments may be required in the IPRS system. Upon final edits made in reporting requirements, the Division will consult with EDS regarding IPRS system changes which may be needed to accommodate reporting requirements. The Division anticipates that such changes would be relatively minor and could be made within existing resources dedicated to IPRS ongoing maintenance and operations.
5. At this time, the Division anticipates having all requirements and system changes finalized prior to January 1, 2008, to enable the collection of county funding utilization for the entire year and thereafter.